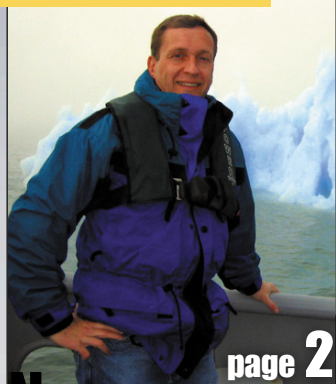


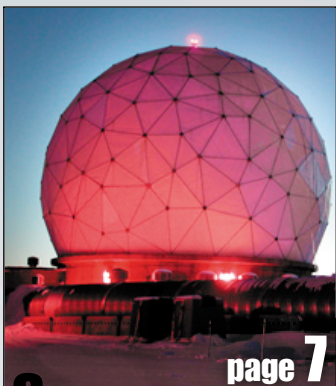
August 4, 2005  
Vol. 3, Issue #1

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**Making the grade**  
Sergeants earn Master  
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# Enlisted Dining-in brightens Arctic Knights

■ *Story and photo by*  
**1st Lt. Justin Herman**  
**821st Air Base Group Public Affairs**

Air Force tradition met airborne hamburger buns at the enlisted combat dining-in held at the old hospital here June 9.

The event, which brought together Airmen of all ranks, featured guest of honor the eighth Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Sam Parrish, hamburgers, a canteen and two grog bowls.

Officers were invited to the event under the condition that they accept enlisted rank honorarily to participate in the festivities.

For Senior Master Sgt. Scott Baggett, an organizer of the event from the 821st Support Squadron, the most rewarding part of the night was seeing what a group of motivated Airmen could do in a remote environment.

"We scrounged up nails, we scrounged up tacks," Sergeant Baggett said. "Our biggest concern was that we couldn't go downtown to buy things, but we turned an abandoned building into the scene of an event 100 times better than I ever imagined it could be."

More than two dozen Airmen prepared the enlisted combat dining-in, contributing more than 200 manhours to the project.

For Airman Matt Peters, 821st Security Forces Squadron, his first experience at an enlisted combat dining-in was a chance to have a good time with his fellow Airmen, and at their expense.



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

Airmen of Team Thule wait in line for their turn at the grog bowl during the enlisted dining-in held at the old hospital here June 9. The event, organized by more than two dozen Airmen, featured a canteen, food for throwing and a speech by the eighth Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Sam Parrish. Officers were invited to attend if they honorarily accepted an enlisted rank at the door.

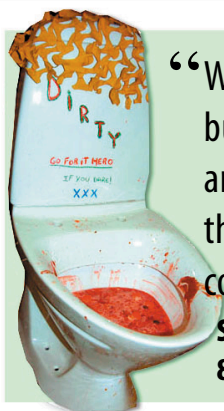
"The grog bowl was horrible, but it was cool watching other people drink it," Airman Peters said. "At first I didn't know what to expect, and everyone was saying it was going

tion Ceremony, shared words of wisdom with Airmen, and avoided most of the flying food and water.

"Anytime you get the opportunity to hear a Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force speak, it's a good opportunity," said Sergeant Baggett. "It was great being able to get this group together to share a tradition like this in an environment like ours."

Capt. Jeremy Colvin, 821st Support Squadron, was glad to put on Staff Sgt. stripes and join in with the tradition.

"When I showed up I expected it to be a good time steeped in tradition," said Capt. Colvin. "I didn't realize it was going to be that good of a time, or that messy."



"We turned an abandoned building into the scene of an event 100 times better than I ever imagined it could be..."

**Senior Master Sgt. Scott Baggett**  
**821st Support Squadron**

to be a big food fight, but it brought everyone together and really boosted morale. Meeting Chief Parrish was special too."

Chief Parrish, originally scheduled to speak at Thule's Senior Noncommissioned Officer Induc-



### Bake-a-Pie competition

The Bake-a-Pie competition will be held at the community center Sunday at 2-5p.m. "Fabulous prizes" will be awarded, according to Staff Sgt. Heather Chavez. Judging begins at 3 p.m. and all are invited to sample the entries.

Please sign up as a judge or baker by Saturday at the community center.

### Thule Booster Club

The Thule Booster Club's next meeting will be held in the Building 461 Conference Room here Aug. 11 at 1 p.m. New members are encouraged to attend. Topics of discussion include upcoming fund raisers, the Christmas Party committee, and morale oriented events. For more information, please contact Senior Airman Steve Hernandez, 821st Support Squadron.

### Police cutter tours

Police cutter Sisak IV, from Sisimiut, Greenland, is hosting an 'Open Ship' Aug. 7 at the pier from 2-5p.m. Demonstrations of Zodiac, water survival suits and the line gun will be performed. For more information, please contact the Danish Liason Office.

### Thule Honor Guard practice

The Team Thule Honor Guard's next practice will be held Aug. 16 at 4p.m. in the Top of the World Club ballroom. New members are encouraged to attend and 'join an elite team of professionals,' stated Tech. Sgt. Thomas Smith, 821st Support Squadron. For more information, please contact Sergeant Smith.

### Throw Back Thursday

The Coffee Shop will be hosting Throw Back Thursday, featuring music from the 70's, 80's and 90's, Thursday from 7:30-11 p.m. at the Top of the World Club ballroom. The Coffee Shop includes live performance of poetry, with selections of jazz and neo-soul music, from 7:30-9 p.m., and R&B, hip hop and reggae from 9-11 p.m. Please contact Staff Sgt. Aubrey Buhr for more information.

## New commanders arrive at Thule



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

Brig. Gen. Richard Webber, 21st Space Wing commander, bestows command of the 821st Air Base Group to Col. David Buck at a ceremony held here June 30 at the fitness center. Colonel Buck joins Team Thule from his last assignment as chief of the Multilateral Affairs Division at the Pentagon, Washington, D.C.

Maj. Steve LaCasse assumed command of the 821st Support Squadron from Maj. Joseph Wedding in a ceremony held here July 7.

Maj. Darryl Terrell assumed command of Det. 3, 22nd Space Operations Squadron, from Maj. Michael Hower in a ceremony held here June 23.

Lt. Col. Scott Peel assumed command of the 12th Space Warning Squadron from Lt. Col. Joseph Hinson in a ceremony held here June 9.

Capt. Brint Woodruff assumed command of the 821st Security Forces Squadron from Capt. Joseph Gallagher in a ceremony held here June 23.

## So I go to this club, and there's a polar bear and a Chaplain...



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

The eighth Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force, Sam Parrish, shares stories with Thule non-commissioned officers during a luncheon at the Pavillion here June 9. Chief Parrish was the guest of honor at the enlisted dining-in that evening.

# Future Total Force outlined on Capitol Hill

■ *Story by*  
**Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez**  
**Air Force Print News**

There will be no “gap” between the end of assigned missions for Air National Guard units and the beginning of their replacement missions.

In testimony before the House Armed Services Committee on July 20, the director of Air Force plans and programs told legislators the service is working hard to find replacement missions for Air National Guard units that may lose their flying mission as a result of the current Base Realignment and Closure recommendations.

“We have a tough job ahead of us, establishing new missions for these areas,” said Lt. Gen. Stephen G. Wood. “(But) we are committed not to gap between areas. If we have a unit that is going to lose its aircraft and transition to a new mission, we want to bring those aircraft down at the same rate we train for the new mission.”

Some legislators said they feared that without the draw of an aircraft for local communities to rally around and for potential Airmen to be interested in, it would be difficult to retain existing guardsmen and to recruit new ones. But General Wood said the Air Force is more than just airplanes, and said he hoped existing Guardsmen would be willing to participate in new, critical missions.

“The Air Force is more than flying aircraft,” he said. “We are a space force. We are a cyber force. There are new, engaging missions out there that we need to prepare for the future. It is our hope that these outstanding Airmen transition to these new jobs.”

In recommendations to BRAC commissioners, Air Force officials have asked to close some Guard and active-duty bases. Other selected bases are recommended for realignment -- existing missions may be lost altogether or moved to other bases.



U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

WASHINGTON -- Lt. Gen. Stephen G. Wood answers questions about the Air Force's future total force initiative during a hearing before the House Armed Services Committee July 20. The goal of the future total force initiative is to maximize Air Force capabilities by identifying emerging relevant missions for the active-duty component, the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve as a total force team. General Wood is the Air Force deputy chief of staff for plans and programs.

In some locations, new missions would be brought in to replace missions lost.

The Air Force plan to realign missions and organizations is outlined in the service's Future Total Force concept. The concept's aim is to strengthen the Air Force by creating synergies between active duty and reserve component units.

**“The Air Force is flying  
 more than aircraft...  
 We are a space force.”**

**Lt. Gen. Stephen Wood**  
**director, Air Force Plans and Programs**

“(This) involves change, and we all know change isn't easy,” General Wood said. “The Air Force is facing incredible challenges today, and the path we take now will shape our collective shared future.”

The general said the Future Total Force plan includes two key aspects. First

is a change to the force structure. This involves a plan to divest the service of older aircraft and replace them with newer aircraft. One such newer aircraft is the F/A-22 Raptor.

The second part of the FTF plan involves changing the organizational structure of the total Air Force. The “total force” includes active duty Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units. These changes will involve the pairing of active duty units with reserve component units to help maximize the benefits that each brings to the fight.

While General Wood said the total force has already been working together for most of the Air Force's history, he expects FTF to yield even greater results.

“Under our plan we will take this integration to the next level by expanding both the scope and the number of associate units using the lessons learned over the past 40 years,” he said. “We will see the experience of our young active duty airmen ... grow significantly under the mentoring of skilled Air National Guard maintenance experts.”





*Reflections in an Icecap* asks, 'Got Clearance?'

## Airmen must keep clearances current

■ *Viewpoint by*  
**Tech. Sgt. Douglas Kahn**  
**821st Support Squadron Logistics**

**D**id you know everyone here needs to have a current security clearance?

All Secret clearances are good for ten years, and Top Secret clearances are good for five years, though administratively downgraded to Secret at Thule Air Base.

When was your last clearance completed? Airmen may want to ask their Security Manager if they're not sure.

Airmen who have a top secret clearance or had to update their current clearance know the information that is needed is not something that can be put together overnight.

The Office of Personnel Management, the agency which conducts the investigations, checks back five years for a Top Secret, and 10 years for a Secret. They will need addresses of all the places that the applicant has lived, their supervisor's name, and personnel who knew them at those locations.

The investigator that is assigned to the case will be checking these addresses, in addition to other areas such as criminal records checks, medical records, and bank accounts.

How can you help?

As soon as a Team Thule member finds out who their replacement is, they should ask them if their clearance is current and if it will expire while they are here. If contact cannot be made with the member, they should contact their Security Manager with the replacement's social security number.

Check yourself as well. If you are within one year of expiration, you need to start the process.

Eight months before a clearance is going to expire, you should start the process to have the clearance updated. Per the Air Force Instruction governing this program, the package must be submitted no later than six months prior to the current investigation expiring.

Failure to renew the clearance eligibility can, and usually will, result in adverse administrative action, including revocation of clearance eligibility. No one wants that. It may be harder if the records are in storage and the clearance holder is here or if their spouse has no idea what is being asked for.

For more information on security clearance issues, please contact unit Security Managers Tech. Sgt. Doug Kahn, 821st Air Base Group and Support Staff, Staff Sgt. Doug Brown, 821st Security Forces Squadron, or Staff Sgt. Michael Roberts, 12th Space Warning Squadron.



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

## Tee time

Greg Lambert lines up a shot during the 31st Annual Mount Dundas Open, the northernmost golf tournament in the world, here July 3. More than 35 participants climbed 800 feet of shale rock to reach the nine-hole par-3 course, which overlooks the air base, the Greenlandic ice cap and iceberg-filled North Star Bay. The final 75 feet up Mount Dundas features a rope climb up a sheer rock face, making it necessary to move golf clubs and other equipment by helicopter. Mr. Lambert is a contractor with the 821st Security Forces Squadron.

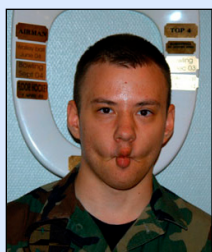
Thule Times grills the **Honor Guard...**

## What **you** would put in a Grog Bowl?!



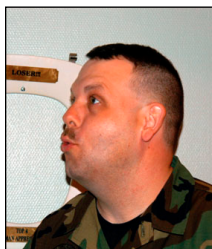
"Ora-Jel. Why? Because it's funny."

*Staff Sgt.  
Aaron Miller*



"Lemon concentrate, so I can watch everyone's face pucker up."

*Airman  
Joseph Pruitt*



"Soap, so I can watch people's faces as they blow bubbles."

*Tech. Sgt.  
Thomas Smith*



"Soap? Then I'd have to wash my hands in it."

*Tech. Sgt.  
Stacy Annese*



"Habaneros. Then I could watch everyone sweat and cry."

*Master Sgt.  
James Cobbs*



**with Charlotte Jensen**  
Hometown: Copenhagen, Denmark

**What's the proper way to administer greetings in Danish throughout the day when there is 24 hours of daylight?**

Even though there is 24 hours of daylight, it doesn't change the greeting. 'Godmorgen' means Good Morning. 'God eftermiddag' means Good Afternoon. 'Godaften' means Good Evening. 'Godnat' means Good Night.

## Achors Away!



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

The only tug boat in the U.S. Air Force inventory is lowered into North Star Bay here July 9 to begin its mission of shifting icebergs and shipping vessels in the northernmost deep port in the world. The tug boat operates in North Star Bay during the summer months, when the bay is unlocked from it's frozen state.



**Col. David J. Buck, 821st Air Base Group commander**  
**1st Lt. Justin T. Herman, chief, Public Affairs and Protocol**

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Courtesy photo

## Pogo upgrades mission

Arctic flowers bloom near Detachment 3, 22nd Space Operations Squadron, as the installation of a Defensive Counter Space radio frequency interference detection system completed here June 24. The mission upgrade will allow Det. 3 to "better detect and locate potentially hostile radio frequency interference that could corrupt Air Force Satellite Control Network operations," according to Maj. Darryl Terrell, Jr., Det. 3 commander.

## The stars of stripes



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

Staff Sgt. Charles Desaulniers, 821st Security Forces Squadron, is greeted outside his door by a crowd of well-wishers as he and seven other members of Team Thule are notified of their selection to the next rank here June 15. The selectees each received a round of applause, certificate and celebratory bottle of Thule Air Base champagne in commemoration.

### Selectees to Technical Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Charles Desaulniers, 821st SFS  
Staff Sgt. Matthew Gilbride, 821st SPTS  
Staff Sgt. Ronnie Morris, 821st SFS

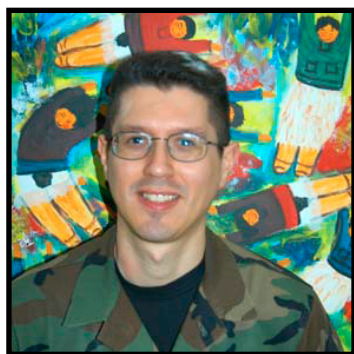
### Selectees to Master Sergeant

Tech. Sgt. Stacy Annese, 821st ABG  
Tech. Sgt. Darcy Cannon, 821st SPTS  
Tech. Sgt. Lonnie Everhart, 821st SPTS  
Tech. Sgt. Donald Friemel, 821st SPTS  
Tech. Sgt. Douglas Kahn, 821st SPTS



**Congratulations to  
the selectees**





**Staff Sgt. Richard Graves**  
NCOIC Group Command Section

**Nickname:**

Rich

**Hometown:**

Hayward, California

**Family:**

Wife, Nancy, and daughter, Anne-Marie

**Job Description:**

Office Boy

**First Assignment:**

Langley Air Force Base, Va.

**Hobbies:**

Computer gaming, jogging and fishing

**Goals in Life:**

Survival

**Words of Wisdom:**

"Wear sunscreen."

**Most Memorable Thule Day:**

"I liked climbing Mount Dundas. You get a good view of the base from up there."

**Favorite Quote:**

"If I was being executed by lethal injection, I'd clean up my cell real neat. Then, when they came to get me I'd say, 'Injection? I thought you said inspection.' They'd probably feel real bad and maybe I could get out of it."

# Zero defects for products, not people

■ *Commentary by*

**Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Zabel**

**Air Education and Training Command**

**A**s a young Airman, I used to think if I made a mistake, I would get a bad performance report. I definitely made some mistakes, but they never reflected in my ratings. Needless to say, I was relieved.

I later learned as a supervisor that an isolated mistake by a junior enlisted member does not need to be mentioned in a performance report. Needless to say, my subordinates were relieved.

I don't know anyone who likes the sound of a "One Mistake Air Force," least of all, me. America has always been the land of opportunity and second chances. It's a place where we can learn from our mistakes as we climb the ladder of success. But still, the perception of some Airmen is if they make just one mistake, their careers will come to an end.

Let's change the perception and get the word out. A zero-defects mentality creates an unhealthy work environment. We can all be the change agent for this truth and provide hope to military members in the workplace when it comes to making mistakes. Share these thoughts with Airmen and supervisors everywhere.

1. Zero defects is a theory for products, not people. People are teachable and self-correcting.

2. Zero defects is a danger to progress. No mistakes means no growth. We all learn from our mistakes and others can learn from our mistakes as well.

3. Zero defects is an impossible goal. No one is perfect. Ethical people struggle to do the right thing. Hard working people strive to do the best job possible.

4. Zero defects deters honesty. It creates an atmosphere of telling our supervisors what they want to hear not what is true. People should be held accountable for their actions but not expected to be perfect.

5. Zero defects destroys the justice system. Lifelong punishment for one mistake does not leave room for change and learning.

Unfortunately, depending on the severity of the mistake, this could be true. But in most cases, it's not true. There is a difference between a crime and a mistake.

6. Zero defects hones in on the bad, not the good. This mentality belittles all the good we do.

7. Zero defects leaves no room for restoration. Forgiveness is the key to healthy self-esteem. Life is a journey; forgiveness allows us to get back on track after we make a mistake. I don't know any successful person who hasn't grown stronger from a lifetime of mistakes. We get up after we fall down, brush ourselves off and press on with our dreams and aspirations. It is not about the mistakes we make in life, it's how we handle them. Not having a zero defects mentality gives us the chance to learn from them.





Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

Airman 1st Class Kevin Klutz and Airman Shaun Mueller, 821st Security Forces Squadron, wind up while riding high during the Team Thule Dogdeball Tournament held at the community center here July 23. Eight teams competed in the event, which was won by the 821st Support Squadron Athletic Supporters.



Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

A Canadian Coast Guard officer cadet secures a rope aboard the CCGS Henry Larsen Monday at the pier here. The CCGS Henry Larsen, an icebreaker, travelled here to escort cargo vessels during the month of June.



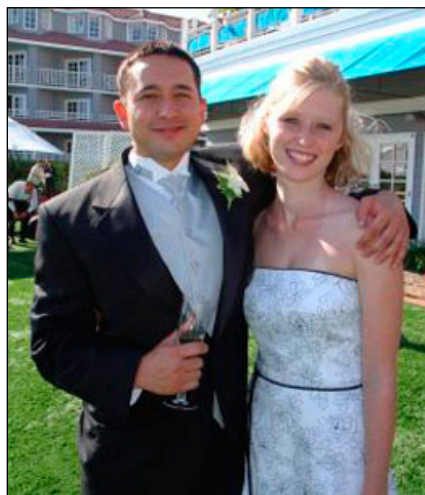
Photo by 1Lt. Justin Herman

wakingNorman performs at the Fourth of July concert outside the community center here. It was the second trip here for the band out of Texas, who performed at Thule last winter. They performed four concerts during this trip, arranged by Armed Forces Entertainment.

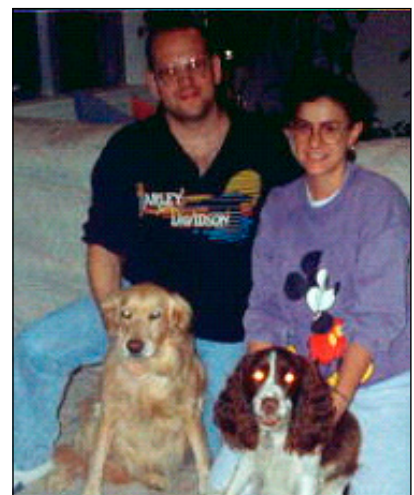
## Here ye, Here ye!



Master Sgt. Leanne Ray, 821st Support Squadron, is pleased to announce the birthday of her son, William "Tippy" Ray, celebrated on June 16. Tippy is nine years old.



Capt. Jeremy Colvin, 821st Support Squadron, is pleased to announce his marriage to Kirstina Kee July 3 at the Arlington Street Church, Boston, MA.



Chief Master Sgt. Richard Armading, 821st Air Base Group, is pleased to announce the 15th wedding anniversary of him and his wife, Trisch, June 22.